

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system for printing a color image provided via the Internet, comprising:

a terminal unit, connected to said Internet, operable to obtain said color image;

a printer, connected to said terminal unit, operable to print said color image; and

a correcting information provider operable to provide said terminal unit with correcting information for allowing said color image to be corrected in accordance with at least color characteristics of said printer.

2. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correcting information provider is connected to said terminal unit.

3. A printing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said correcting information provider is connected to said terminal unit via said Internet.

4. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correcting information provider includes a printer type database for storing information regarding color characteristics for each type of said printer, and

said correcting information provider provides said correcting information obtained by color correction based on the contents of said printer type database.

5. A printing system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said information regarding said color characteristics is a color correction table to be used for said color correction in accordance with said color characteristics of said printer.

6. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correcting

information provider provides said correcting information in accordance with at least color characteristics of said printer and a type of paper to be used by said printer.

7. A printing system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said correcting information provider includes a user-setting information database for storing printer-setting information regarding a current color setting of said printer, a type and a size of paper to be used by said printer, and

said correcting information provider provides said correcting information based on said printer-setting information.

8. A printing system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said terminal unit transmits a type of paper currently accommodated in said printer to said correcting information provider,

said correcting information provider determines whether or not said current paper type is the same as said paper type stored in said user-setting information database, and notifies said terminal unit that said current paper type is different from said stored paper type stored when said current paper type is different from said stored paper type.

9. A printing system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said correcting information provider includes a correction notifying unit operable to notify said terminal unit that said current setting is out of a predetermined region for a desired setting.

10. A printing system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said correcting information provider includes a layout unit operable to make a layout of said image based on said size of paper.

11. A printing system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said user-setting information database is operable to store information regarding brightness and sharpness of said image, and

said correcting information provider provides said correcting information based on said printer-setting information and said information regarding said brightness and said sharpness of said image.

12. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correcting information provider includes:

an image obtaining unit operable to obtain said image from said Internet; and

an information presenting unit operable to present said image to said terminal unit, wherein

said terminal unit obtains said image via said information presenting unit.

13. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correction information provider includes a correction notifying unit operable to notify said terminal unit the contents of correction to be performed for said image.

14. A printing system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said correction notifying unit determines whether or not said color characteristics of said printer are in normal regions, and notifies said terminal unit that said color characteristics are abnormal when said color characteristics of said printer are out of said normal regions.

15. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said terminal unit includes:

an image receiving unit operable to receive said color image;

an image displaying unit operable to display said color image received; and

a correcting information requesting unit operable to request said correcting information provider to provide said terminal unit with said correcting information corresponding to said color image.

16. A printing system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said terminal unit further includes:

a printer-setting obtaining unit operable to obtain a current setting of said printer; and

a printer-setting information transmitting unit operable to transmit said current setting of said printer to said correcting information provider when said terminal unit requests the transmission of said correcting information to said correcting information provider.

17. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correcting information provider includes a storing unit operable to store said correcting information so as to allow re-use of said correcting information.

18. A printing system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said correcting information determines whether or not said correcting information is stored in said storing unit, and reads said correcting information when it is determined that said correcting information is stored and transmits said read correcting information to said terminal unit.

19. A printing system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an information sending apparatus operable to provide said color image on the Internet; and

an information notifying apparatus operable to provide location information indicating a location of said color image on the Internet method, wherein

said correcting information provider obtains said color image based on said location information and provides said correcting information corresponding said color image to said terminal unit.

20. A printing system as claimed in claim 19, wherein said correcting information provider includes a request number database operable to store the number of printing requests for each of a plurality of color images, and

said correcting information provider notifies said information notifying unit said number of said printing requests in a predetermined period.

21. A printing system as claimed in claim 19, wherein said terminal unit includes:

a receiving unit operable to receive said location information; and

a correcting information requesting unit operable to request said correcting information provider to provide said terminal unit with said correcting information corresponding to said color image and to transmit said location information to said correcting information provider.

22. A printing system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said terminal unit further includes:

a printer-setting obtaining unit operable to obtain a current setting of said printer; and

a printer-setting information transmitting unit operable to transmit said current setting of said printer to said correcting information provider when said terminal unit requests the transmission of said correcting information to said correcting information provider.

23. A printing system as claimed in claim 19, wherein said correcting information provider includes a storing unit operable to store said correcting information so as to allow re-use of said correcting information.

24. A printing system as claimed in claim 23, wherein said

correcting information determines whether or not said correcting information is stored in said storing unit, and reads said correcting information when it is determined that said correcting information is stored and transmits said read correcting information to said terminal unit.

25. A method of supplying correcting information for a color image provided via the Internet to a printer connected to the Internet, comprising:

- obtaining a current setting of the printer;
- obtaining the color image from the Internet; and
- providing the printer with correcting information for allowing the color image to be corrected in accordance with said current setting of the printer.

26. A printing method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said current setting of said printer includes at least color characteristics of said printer.

27. A printing method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said current setting of said printer includes a size and a type of paper to be used by said printer, and

- said printer prints said color image by using said correcting information provided in accordance with said color characteristics of said printer and said size and type of said paper.

28. A color image correcting information providing system for a color image provided via the Internet, comprising:

- means for obtaining a current setting of a printer connecting to the Internet; and

- means for supplying to the printer via the Internet correcting information which allows the color image to be corrected in accordance with said current setting of the printer.